# State of Evaluation in the Federal Government

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## Roles of Program Evaluation

- Inform Decision-Making
- Accountability





### To be effective:

- Evaluation must be timely, relevant, credible, cost-effective
- timely: available when needed for decisionmaking
- relevant: issues that matter; robust methodologies; practical
- credible: independent; objective; neutral; balanced; evidence-based
- cost-effective: an investment in information for decision-making





# **Key Challenges**

#### Top management support and use

results focus
learning culture
manages risk
values evidence
understands the potential value of evaluations
links to policy development
accountability

#### **Central Agency use**

policy-making resource allocation / reallocation accountability





# Key Challenges (cont'd)

#### Capacity to deliver quality product

experienced evaluators (internal & external)

adequate funding

practical planning

information to support

evaluation

#### Effective governance of the function

independence

access to decision makers





## **Enabling**

Environment: Expectations for evidence-based decision-making 30 years of experience: summative / formative

Expenditure Management System

Strategic Reviews / streamlining regulations

Federal Accountability Act

100% coverage of g & c programs

Implementation / Design / Delivery





## Today's discussion

Some departments are thriving; others struggling

Presenters and participants ideas for continued progress

How TB and departments are working together to meet the challenges





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